



James E. McGreevey
Governor



Susan Bass Levin
Commissioner

A Simple Guide to Cross-Acceptance and Plan Endorsement for the New Jersey State Plan

Governor McGreevey has made it clear that the State of New Jersey, to combat the effects of sprawl, must align itself to one vision of the future. The New Jersey Development and Redevelopment Plan, also known as the State Plan, is the guiding principle for this vision. It is designed to help the state, counties, towns and constituents plan for New Jersey's future. The Cross-acceptance and Plan Endorsement processes are the tools used to give a voice to those who have a vested interest in the State Plan and New Jersey's future.

Cross-Acceptance

- The collaborative process of proposing, reviewing and accepting information and revisions to the State Plan – it is a give and take between the state's agencies, municipalities, counties and the public.
- Collects information and feedback from local officials and the public about their future planning and growth.
- Benefits of Cross-acceptance:
 - Fosters true planning partnerships at all levels of government
 - Provides for open discussion regarding the true efficiencies of regional planning
 - Ensures public input to the State Plan
 - Provides the most up-to-date information needed to create a blueprint for a new State Plan

Plan Endorsement

- The process available for municipalities and counties to have their development and preservation plans approved (or endorsed) by the State Planning Commission. An endorsed plan will make statewide benefits, technical assistance and other resources available, and will assist the town/county to implement their plans. Plan Endorsement participation is voluntary, but highly encouraged.
- By going through the Plan Endorsement process, local and county governments will work together with the state on their planning efforts and ensure that the plans are consistent with each other and with the State Plan. This process will ensure that we are guiding our future, and not simply following it.
- Benefits of Plan Endorsement:
 - Entities that receive Plan Endorsement are entitled to a variety of benefits, both regulatory and financial, including priority for state funding, coordination of planning with other agencies, expedited permit review and state capital project construction
 - Through Plan Endorsement, state agencies will be aligning their resources to local initiatives

New Jersey State Planning Commission Cross-Acceptance Schedule

March 2004	Cross-Acceptance & Plan Endorsement Process Begins
March 2004 – Sept. 2004	County & Municipal Meetings
Sept. 2004 – Dec. 2004	Negotiations
Jan. 2005 – May 2005	New final State Plan and State Planning Map drafted and reviewed by the State Planning Commission